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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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INFORMATION REPORT

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1. In the HF Electrical Communication Works, Ostendstrasse 1-5, Berlin-Oberschneewitz, the MK tube division produces a metal-ceramic tube which is used as a transmitter tube. It is modeled after a former German Army tube. The division was producing about 120 tubes daily, of which only 10 to 20 were good; the rest were defective. This high spoilage rate caused a meeting to be held at which the plant director, Hans Müller, dissolved the division because of its faulty output. All the workmen and division members living in West Berlin were discharged, and some of those living in East Berlin. The division was reorganized with new personnel. The names of the new division heads are Runke (fmu) and Heinitz (fmu). Production was resumed at the rate of 20 to 30 tubes per day, in July.
 2. Two new types of tube, PL 81 and PL 83, are being produced experimentally. PL 81 is an ultra short wave transmitter tube. It was intended to have these tubes out of the experimental stage in time for display at the Leipzig Fair, but the experimental work took longer than was expected. Both these tubes are designed for control functions in industrial plants and machines. A few of the experimental tubes were delivered in August to a textile mill in Thuringia. They had not gone into serious production in September because of continuing experimental work, and because the tools for them were not ready, due to shortages of material. There is especially a shortage of high-grade steel.
 3. The production of P 50 tubes had to be suspended in July because of difficulties over materials, resulting from failure of material deliveries from Western countries.

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4. Experimental work on the tubes, 6H7C and 6H9M, was completed in July and they were to have gone into serious production on 1 August 1952, but it was not done because of shortages of materials, especially molybdenum wire, mica, and grid wire. Serious production on a small scale began later in August. 6H7C goes by the Russian designation, 6N7.
5. A tube, 12 AT 7, is also being manufactured experimentally. This is an ultra short wave tube. Its manufacture meets with special difficulties because it is such a small tube. The grid requires wire of 0.01 mm, which was not available in the works.
6. Tubes currently in serious production in the works are the following: 6SA7, 6AG7, 6AC7, 6SK7, 6SH7, 6J5. Other types included in the production plan are not being manufactured because of material shortages. Molybdenum wire and strut wire for grids are lacking in particular; mica is in very short supply, and porcelain is being used experimentally to replace it.
7. Efforts are being made currently to substitute nickel wire for the lacking molybdenum wire. Experiments are being made with the filters of all tubes in the finishing process.
8. About 30,000 to 35,000 filters are manufactured daily in the filter winding department. This is enough for a tube production of about 15,000 pieces daily.
9. The production plan for the first half of 1952 has been about 70 percent filled. For June it was 90 percent filled; for July, only 77.9 percent.
10. The works sales director, Lorenz (fnu) was discharged in July by order of the works director, Müller. The reason was political unreliability in a party (SED) sense.
11. The production engineer in the television department, Reinhard Stenzel, has suggested an improvement to save the plant 11,264 DM on a production of 100,000 tubes. His suggestion was to substitute a rolled tubular rivet for one of drawn tube nickel. At the lower end of the cathode holder in a television tube there is a porcelain insulator, which was fastened with two drawn nickel tubular rivets. These rivets did not hold securely in the holes unless strongly forced in. The insulator was not able to stand such force and the result was a good many rejections. The newly developed rivet expands and holds firmly. This improvement will mean a saving in material of 30 percent. Stenzel was given 300 DM for his suggestion.
12. Tubes were formerly delivered from the pump department to the socket department (Sockelei), in wooden boxes. Because of lack of wooden boxes, paper cartons were used instead. These cartons often come open and the tubes fall to the ground and become unserviceable, causing a high rate of rejection in the socket department. Besides this, it was declared at a production meeting, 10 to 15 percent of the top pieces delivered to the socket department are rejected, in spite of controls. Sabotage is suspected in both cases.
13. 60 television tubes were rejected because the image screens had been scored with a glass cutter. The works management announced that this was a clear case of sabotage.

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14. In the week 14-20 September 1952 a member of the works was tried. The procedure was that of the routine show trial. The accused admitted connection with a Western sabotage organization located at Kurfürstendamm 106, Berlin.
15. The tool shop, a key department of the works, with the management's approval, has announced a work competition. The competition was proclaimed throughout the plant as an example to other departments. The tool department pledged itself to over-fulfill the production plan to 150 percent. There are six "brigades" in the tool department, which will compete for the honor of designation as "brigade of outstanding quality."

